

CLAIMS

1. An automatic transmission, comprising:
a source lubrication path for lubricant, a housing and a hub rotatable about a shaft at differing speeds and having a variable axial assembly gap therebetween, said axial assembly gap defining an annular flow path in fluid communication with said source lubrication path and a lubrication-requiring mechanism, a lubrication control device disposed in said annular flow path and in constant contact with said housing and said hub and having spring adjustability to accommodate said variable axial assembly gap, a means for securing said lubrication control device to said hub for rotation therewith, and said lubrication control device having a radial slot to permit a prescribed flow of lubricant between said lubrication control device and said housing, through said annular flow path, to said lubrication-requiring mechanism.

2. A transmission, as defined in claim 1, wherein said lubrication control device is comprised of a washer having an annular disk portion defined by a lubrication side and a securing side, said lubrication side in constant contact with said housing and having said radial slot, said securing side having a seating flange extending axially about the circumference of said securing side, and a belleville spring having a small diameter end in contact with said hub and a large diameter end piloted by said seating flange to contact said securing side of said washer, wherein said belleville spring provides spring adjustability to accommodate said variable axial assembly gap, and said means for securing said lubrication control device to said hub for rotation therewith comprising a window in said hub and a tab extending axially from said seating flange through said window for rotating said washer with said hub.

3. A transmission, as defined in claim 2, wherein said spring is comprised of bronze.

4. An automatic transmission, comprising:
a source lubrication path for lubricant, a housing and a hub rotatable about a shaft at differing speeds and having a variable axial assembly gap therebetween, said axial assembly gap defining an annular flow path in fluid communication with said source lubrication path and a lubrication-requiring mechanism, said housing having an axial flange wall protruding in said annular flow path, a lubrication control device disposed in said annular flow path and in constant contact with said housing and said hub and having spring adjustability to accommodate said variable axial assembly gap,
10 a means for securing said lubrication control device to said axial flange wall of said housing for rotation therewith, and said lubrication control device having a radial slot to permit a prescribed flow of lubricant between said lubrication control device and said hub, through said annular flow path, to said lubrication-requiring mechanism.

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5. A transmission, as defined in claim 4, wherein said lubrication control device comprises a washer configured as an annular cup and having an annular disk portion defined by a lubrication side and a securing side and a cylinder portion extending axially from an outer circumference of said securing side, said lubrication side in constant contact with said hub and including said radial slot, said cylinder portion defined by inner and outer cylindrical walls, said outer cylindrical wall including an inward shoulder, said lubrication control device further comprises a belleville spring having a small diameter end piloted and seated on said inward shoulder
10 of said cylinder portion of said washer and a large diameter end contacting

said housing, wherein said belleville spring provides spring adjustability to accommodate said variable axial assembly gap, and said means for securing said lubrication control device to said housing for rotation therewith comprising a key slot in said axial flange wall of said housing and a key along
15 said inner cylindrical wall of said washer extending in said key slot.

6. A lubrication control device for controlling lubrication flow between a housing and a hub in an automatic transmission, comprising:
a washer having an annular disk portion defined by a lubrication side and a securing side, said lubrication side in constant contact with said housing and
5 having a radial slot, said securing side having a seating flange extending axially about the circumference of said securing side, and a belleville spring having a small diameter end in contact with said hub and a large diameter end piloted by said seating flange to contact said securing side of said washer, wherein said belleville spring provides spring adjustability to accommodate
10 variable axial assembly gap between said housing and hub, and a means for securing said lubrication control device to said hub for rotation therewith comprising a window in said hub and a tab extending axially from said seating flange through said window for rotating said washer with said hub.